



Urban Forest Management Plan Update

Great City Brown Bag

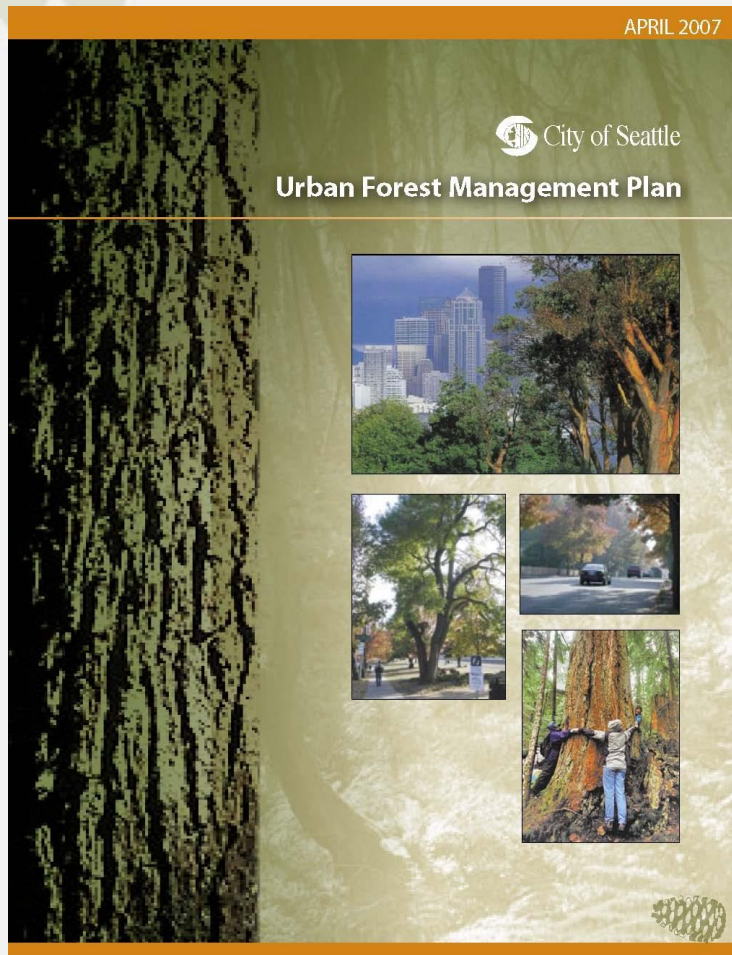
August 9, 2012

Seattle's urban forest goal



Seattle's urban forest is a thriving and sustainable mix of tree and understory species and ages that creates a contiguous and healthy ecosystem that is valued by the City and all Seattle residents as an essential environmental, economic, and community asset.

Urban Forest Management Plan



- Created in April 2007
- Being updated in 2012
- Establishes 30% citywide canopy goal
- Long-, mid-, and short-term strategies for achieving goals
- Implemented through annual workplans
- Managed via an inter-departmental team

What's new since 2007

- **Urban Forestry Commission created in 2009**
- **Created a new, permanent position in 2011 to manage Seattle reLeaf program**
 - Outreach and engagement
 - Trees for Neighborhoods – 2,300 trees to date
 - Tree Ambassador – 40 in 13 neighborhoods
 - Urban Orchards Stewards – 58 in 5 orchards

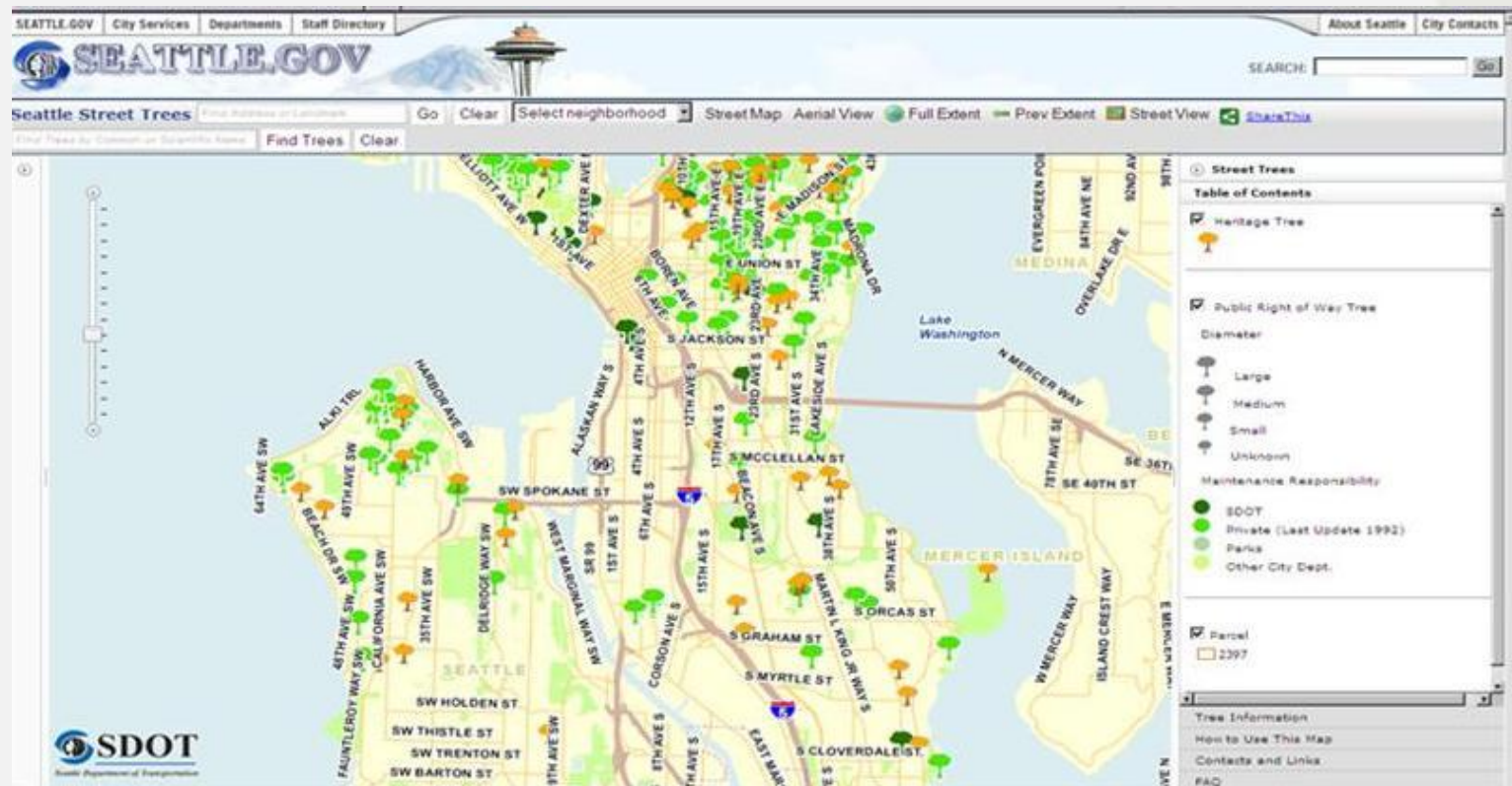


Seattle reLeaf
keep the emerald city green



What's new...

- **Seattle Department of Transportation:**
 - Street tree online map
 - Planted close to 4,500 trees with BTG funding
 - Street Tree ordinance and Manual update



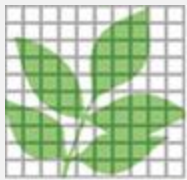
What's new...

- **Parks and Recreation Department:**
 - Green Seattle Partnership:
 - Over 800 acres in restoration
 - Over 500,000 volunteer hours
 - 130 Forest Stewards



What's new...

- **Department of Planning and Development:**
 - GreenFactor
 - Stormwater regulations and rates (with SPU)
 - Private property tree regulations update

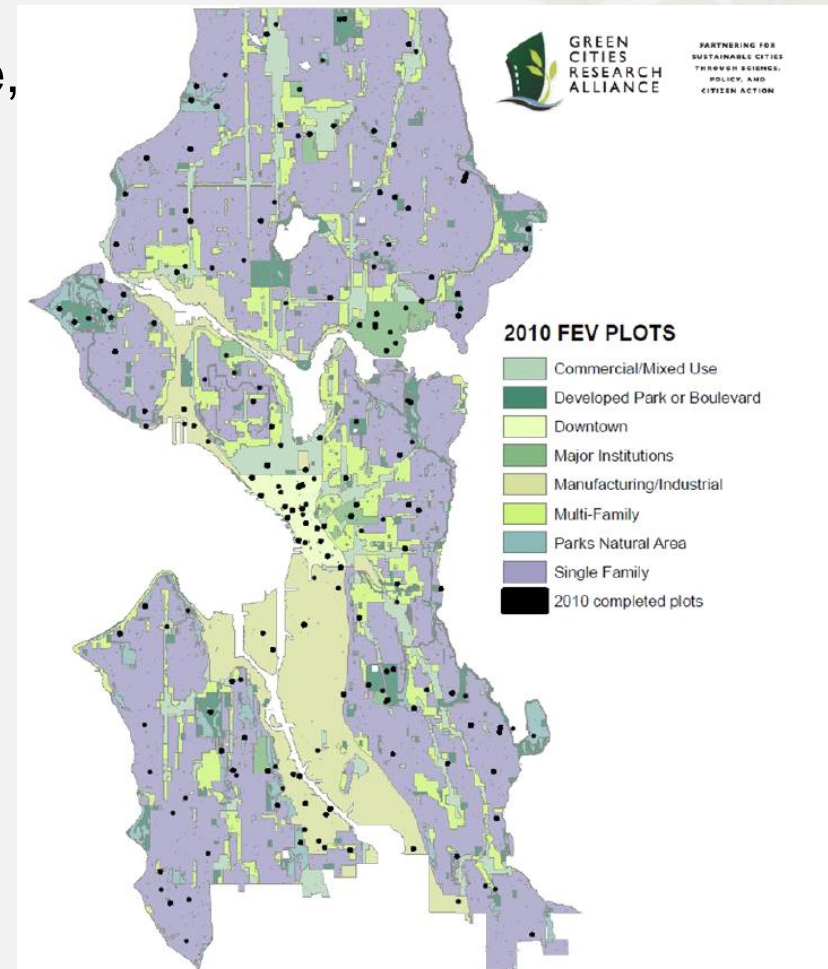


SEATTLE *green factor*



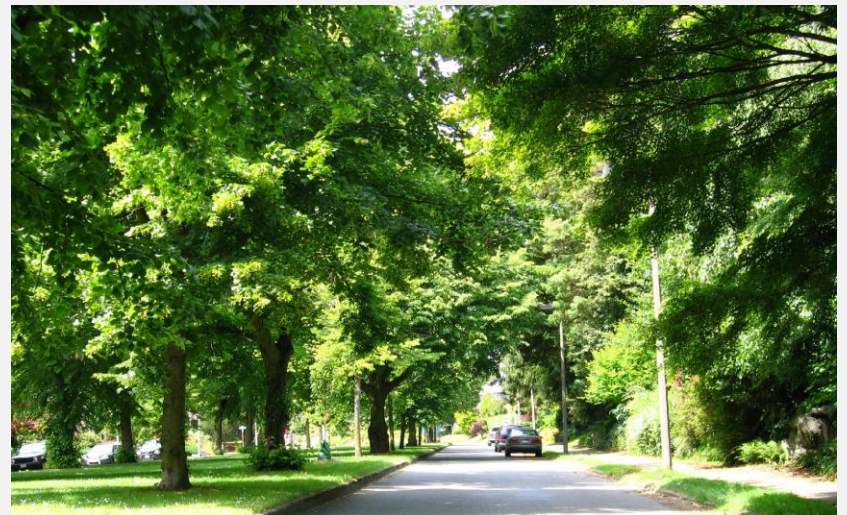
What's new...

- **iTree sampling survey**
 - UW, King County, City of Seattle, and Forterra
 - 2010/2011 data from 223 plots
 - Information included in UFMP update:
 - Condition
 - Evergreen/deciduous breakdown
 - Size
 - Invasive species



UFMP 2012 update

- Citywide canopy goal remains 30%
- Broad strategies remain the same, including focusing on outreach and engagement in residential areas
- Incorporated new information on condition of urban forest (health, species, size, invasives) provided by i-Tree sampling survey
- Updated short-, mid-, and long-term actions in the Action Agenda
- Research Agenda added



Canopy cover goals

| Land Use Category | 2002 Canopy Cover | 2007 Canopy Cover | UFMP Canopy Cover Goal |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Commercial/ Mixed Use | 8.4% | 9.7% | 15% |
| Developed Park | 25.9% | 25.5% | 25% |
| Downtown | 9.0% | 9.0% | 12% |
| Major Institution | 18.4% | 19.4% | 20% |
| Industrial | 3.8% | 4.3% | 10% |
| Multi-Family | 16.6% | 17.1% | 20% |
| Parks Natural Area | 82.5% | 80.4% | 80% |
| Single Family | 25.2% | 25.7% | 33% |
| | | | |
| Total | 22.5% | 22.9% | 30% |

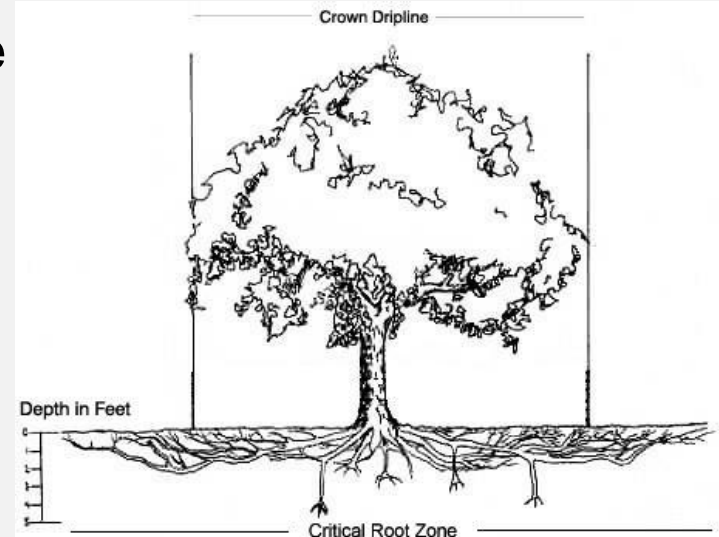
2012 update strategies

- Broad strategies remain the same but are reframed to create a consistent message:
 - Understand
 - Coordinate
 - Preserve and restore
 - Regulate
 - Inspire, inform, and engage



Action Agenda

- Notable short-term actions:
 - Canopy cover assessments every five years
 - Continue two-for-one tree replacement
 - i-Tree data analysis
 - Tree planting potential data “ground-truthing”
 - Develop policy to prioritize expenditures
 - Explore expansion of tree planting incentives
 - Encourage right tree in the right place
 - Expand volunteer opportunities



Research Agenda

- Life-cycle costs of deferred tree planting and maintenance
- Costs/benefits of different pruning cycles
- Monetizing urban forest benefits (i.e. public health, energy, climate change)
- Method to quantify stormwater and water quality benefits



UFMP update contact

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Public comment open through October 1, 2012